

Marianne E. Busteed Head of School

Lowell Public Schools

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December 5, 2019

Dr. Joel Boyd, Superintendent Lowell Public Schools 155 Merrimack Street Lowell, MA 01852

Re: Travel to Belize

Dear Dr. Boyd:

I am writing to request permission for Wayne Taylor to travel with up to thirty students and five chaperones to Belize, during week of February 15-19 school vacation, 2021. (Wayne Taylor, Thomas Thornton, Michelle Callahan, Jill Taylor, and John Mellonakas). Students' may miss one day from school on Friday, February 12, 2021

In order to keep the costs at a minimum for students traveling, we have elected to travel during the "off season" which forces the eight-day trip to overlap with one day of school. The cost of four substitutes will be covered by LHS Professional Development for the amount of \$440. This trip will be coordinated with the assistance of ET Tours, an accredited group located in Boston. This organization comes highly recommended, as they have been working with student travel for over 50 years.

Each student traveling to Belize will pay the total cost of the trip. The itemized cost is:

Student Cost: Pricing Information

- Enrollment Fee \$95- locks in the price for students
- <u>Program Fee</u> \$3,225-\$3,525 (this includes round trip airfare, ground transportation, EF tour director, daily breakfast and dinner, all entrance fees and local guides: travelers will be responsible for their lunch, daily); including Group Travel Insurance; tips will be the responsibility of the group.
- <u>Transportation to/from Logan Airport</u> Approximately \$420 through local bus transportation divided by the number of students attending; at no cost to the school department.

This trip is in accordance with the Massachusetts State curriculum Frameworks under the following standards:

- Standard I: Culture Students will demonstrate an understanding of the culture studied through history, literature, and the arts. <u>Civic dispositions</u>. Encompass value, virtues, and behaviors, such as respect for others, commitment to equality, capacity for listening, and capacity for communicating in ways accessible to others. <u>Speaking and Listening</u>. Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-12 topics, texts and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- Standard 2: Communities- Students will use languages other than English beyond the school setting.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Marianne E. Busteed

Head of Lowell High School